

Dkt. 0575/57005-A-PCT-US/JPW/AJM/MML

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Robert J. Winchester, et al.

Serial No. : 09/773,876

Examiner: R. Schwadron

Filed

: January 31, 2001

Group Art Unit: 1644

For

:USE OF INHIBITORS OF THE ACTIVATION OF CXCR4 RECEPTOR BY SDF-1 IN TREATING RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

1185 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10036

May 20, 2004

Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Sir:

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

This Amendment is submitted in order to address the rejections made in the March 26, 2004 Final Office Action and to make certain disclosures pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56 in connection with the above-identified patent application. A response to the March 26, 2004 Final Office Action is due June 26, 2004. Applicants are filing a Request for Continued Examination herewith. Accordingly, this Amendment is being timely filed.